

Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority Community Health Assessment 2019

Executive Summary



Interlake-Eastern
Regional Health Authority

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This section summarizes the high-level findings from the 2019 Community Health Assessment (CHA) report for Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority (IERHA).

Our Residents

The unique characteristics of our region influence the factors that determine how healthy we are and have a significant impact on the need for appropriate services and programs. Population trends show the number of aging residents is growing in Interlake-Eastern. We have a larger percentage of residents ages 50-79 living in the region compared to Manitoba. As well, nearly one in three IERHA residents self-identify as Indigenous (27%), compared with the provincial average of one in five residents (18%). Our spike in population during the summer months also impacts our program and service planning.

How Healthy Are We?

Interlake-Eastern rates of many chronic diseases are higher compared to the provincial average. This includes rates for cancer, hypertension (high blood pressure), diabetes and childhood asthma.

Diabetes incidence is significantly higher than the provincial rate, with one of every ten residents diagnosed with diabetes. The management of all chronic diseases through community based programs is important in maintaining health and avoiding hospitalization. The chronic disease program, comprised of nurses and dietitians, focuses on the prevention and management of diabetes and other chronic conditions. This is an example of targeted services provided to meet the needs of residents in the region.

There was a significant decrease in the number of residents suffering from heart attack and stroke even though rates are above the provincial average. Improvement was also noted in colorectal screening rates and hip fracture hospitalization rates.

Feedback

The Canadian Patient Experience Survey – Inpatient Care tool lets hospitalized patients provide feedback regarding the care they received. Questions focus on continuity of care, partnership and participation in care by the patient and family, and physical comfort. Sixty-nine percent of Interlake-Eastern patients indicated that they had a ‘very good’ hospital stay, which was slightly higher than the provincial rate.

Disparity and Health Inequities

The region has the smallest percentage of children living in low-income families among all regions in Manitoba. However, there is significant variation between geographic zones within the region, with four of five zones having rates almost twice as high as the provincial average. Similarly, the burden of disease varies between the geographic zones and between age groupings, gender, and income ratios.

Throughout the report health inequities are highlighted where available and appropriate. Addressing inequities is a growing priority for the region, local communities, and governments at all levels.

To view the complete report visit www.ierha.ca click ‘About Us’ and then ‘Publications and Reports’ – ‘Community Health Assessment 2019’
